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**Principal: Mme Lindsay Adams
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DECEMBER

As the days get shorter and the temperature gets colder, we know that winter is upon us and the holidays will soon be here! As Christmas approaches, it is with heartfelt warmth that we acknowledge and thank the students, staff and families that give their time to the École Elbow Valley learning community. We are truly blessed to be part of this amazing school!

Despite being a shorter month, December promises to be busy! The Communication of Student Learning documents (report cards) go home Friday, December 7th. December also brings: our SoundKreations dance residency, our Warm Fuzzies campaign, our Bus Driver Appreciation event, singing for our Heritage Club members and family caroling. Be sure to check the school calendar for specific dates!

Throughout the month of December, we will be focusing on the spirit of giving. The entire school will be participating in a backpack drive for newly arrived immigrants. A donation bin will be placed outside the office and we would ask that new or gently used backpack and lunch boxes be placed there. Please see further information in this month's newsletter.

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to extend our best wishes to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

French Immersion Program

Are you considering giving your child the gift of a second language?

Do you have questions about the French Immersion program?

Please join us for our French Immersion Information Evening!

We will have French Immersion teachers on hand to provide an overview of the program, answers to the most frequently asked questions and a sneak peek at the French Immersion kindergarten classroom.

*Please note: Entry points for French Immersion are Kindergarten and grade 1.

Who: Parents considering registering their children in the French Immersion program starting in September 2019 (Kindergarten or Grade 1)

When: December 5th, 2018 from 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Where: École Elbow Valley Elementary School

Backpack Drive



Do you currently have any new or gently used backpacks or lunch kits at home taking up space?

Do your kids get new backpacks every year and you don't know what to do with the old ones?

Then we have a solution to give back to the community and free up some valuable space!

Elbow Valley Elementary is pleased to announce an exciting new program to benefit kids in our community. We have partnered with Calgary Immigrant Support Society as well as the Boys and Girls Club of Cochrane to help distribute new or gently used backpacks and lunch kits to families who need them.

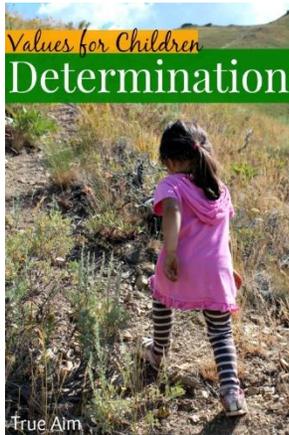
Our partner organization, the Boys and Girls Club of Cochrane, serves over 2300 children and youth and feel this program will be an asset to the families in their community. They are also trying to get in touch with a representative in Morley to see if they need back packs and lunch kits for their families as well.

Our other partner organization, The Calgary Immigrant Support Society, has a mission to make Calgary the most welcoming city for refugees. It is a citizen's action driven group of community volunteers from all walks of life, origins and beliefs that share a common goal of helping refugees. Providing these refugee children with gently used or new backpacks and lunch bags is one small, but extremely important, step to help these refugee assimilate into their new school and community.

This is a pilot project and if we are successful, Elbow Valley Elementary would like to make this an annual program at the end of each school year.

So if you have any new or gently used backpacks or lunch kits that you no longer require, please help us by dropping them off anytime between Monday, December 3rd and Friday, December 14th at the office.

Manhar Cheema & Caley Remington.



December's Character Focus is Determination - Hard work and determination are important values to teach children and have a lifelong impact on their future capabilities, confidence, and happiness. Teaching our children to persevere when things get tough and to work hard to achieve their goals and aspirations is one of the most important skills our children can learn. Nobody likes to see their child fail, but even this can be an important learning experience. We need to let our children make mistakes, and afterward talk to them about it. We need to let them know we are proud of them for trying something hard or new. Check out page 17 in your child's agenda for more on determination.

Speaking of determination a huge THANK YOU goes out to everyone who donated socks for Socktober. We collected 2604 pairs of socks for Inn from the Cold. Fantastic!! Thanks to all classes who showed determination in facing their individual class challenges.

Warm Fuzzy Week December 17 – December 21

Thanks to all the Friendly Helpers who helped make over 600 warm fuzzies for all the students in our school!

Warm Fuzzy time is here again,
So shake a hand or share a grin.
Write a note or give a hug.
Tell a friend how much you care.
Use kind words, and try to share.
The more you give, the more you'll get.
Warm fuzzies are the best gift yet.
So even when this time is gone, your "Fuzzy" feelings will go on!

School Council

Staff Luncheon

Parents hosted a staff luncheon during November, which, as usual, everyone loved. Thank you to all our outstanding chefs/parents for all the amazing food and treats and to our incredible set up and clean-up crew. If you haven't already done so, please pick up your serving dishes from the staff room.

Mathathon

On Wednesday, November 21st, we completed MATHATHON, our school's largest fundraiser. Thank you to all our generous volunteers and donors!

Scholastics Book Fair

A huge thank you to all who either helped with the fair or bought books! It was a huge success, generating a significant amount for the school to buy more books for the learning commons, as well as encouraging an interest in reading. Keep a look out for future details about the Spring Fair!

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are currently available for purchase through school cash online for \$25.

Visit schoolcashionline.com and sign into your account to purchase yours today.

The Yearbook Committee is looking for someone to take over creating the book for the 2019/20 year. The Lifetouch program is easy to use and our rep is a great source of knowledge and help. Unfortunately, if we are unable to find someone to take over this role, this will be the last year EEVE will be creating a yearbook. If this is something you might be interested in, please let us know at elbowvalleyyearbook@gmail.com

Stay tuned for the annual yearbook cover contest. Details will be available in the January newsletter.

Learning Commons

As we enter into December, volunteers are needed as much as ever to help in the learning commons. An hour of your time would be hugely appreciated to shelve books using the Dewey Decimal System. Kids welcome to come and “help”. See Sign-Up Genius to book your slot.

Please Join Us!

The next School Council Meeting is Tuesday, December 11th at 7 PM in the Learning Commons. Please join us. Kids are welcome. Refreshments and treats will be provided! For those of you who can't make it, you can still participate in the meeting remotely by installing the zoom.us application on your devices. Please read the weekly VLOG for further instructions!

Please make it easier for your child's things to make it home by ordering labels from Mabels Labels at <http://www.mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser>. Choose “ELBOW VALLEY SCHOOL” in the drop-down menu.

Parents and students, thank you for all you do!



KINDERGARTEN ENGLISH & FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAMS

École Elbow Valley Elementary

High Quality Kindergarten Programs in both English and French

Kindergarten provides learning experiences that are developmentally appropriate to meet the diverse needs of children and to promote a positive attitude toward life-long learning.

Kindergarten Registration:

Monday, January 14th, 2019 beginning at 8:00am at École Elbow Valley Elementary.

Registration will be ongoing throughout the week and the rest of the school year. Registration forms can be found on the RVS website or completed at the school. All children living in Elbow Valley School's catchment area will be guaranteed a placement. Out of attendance registrations are recorded on a wait list. Acceptance is based on room and resources.

Families will be notified of their child's placement in an AM or PM class by mid-June to August. Please note that when determining AM/PM placement, we consider requests as well as other factors required to create balanced classrooms.

See link for attendance area: <http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/registration/attendance-areas/springbank-area/elbow-valley-elementary-school-k-4>

To register online or for more information: <http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/registration/schools>

A Birth Certificate and proof of address is required. Children must be **FIVE YEARS** of age **ON** or **BEFORE** **FEBRUARY 28, 2020. (No Exceptions)**

French Immersion Information Evening

French Immersion Information evening – December 5, 2018 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the Learning Commons.

Parents considering French Immersion for their child(ren) will have an opportunity to meet with French Immersion teachers, a representative from Canadian Parents for French, and parent and student leaders. A second language can open doors and create new opportunities.

School Tours

School tours are offered to new students and parents on the following dates: (Please sign up when registering at the school)

Thursday, January 10 at 1:15 pm

Monday, January 21 at 9:30 am

December 2018

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
DETERMINATION					1 Bragg Creek's Spirit of Christmas! 12-4PM	2 Bragg Creek's Spirit of Christmas! 12-4PM
3 Professional Learning Day (No Classes K-4)	4 Hip Hop Dance Subway Senior's Tea @ 1PM Determination is deciding to do something and sticking with it.	5 Hip Hop Dance Bus Driver's Tea @ 8:45AM F.I. Kindergarten Info. Night 6:30-7:30PM Determination is making a plan to reach your goals.	6 Hip Hop Dance Determination is solving problems.	7 Hip Hop Dance Mucho Burrito Report Cards go home today! Determination is doing what is right and not just what is easy.	8 Bragg Creek's Spirit of Christmas! 12-4PM	9 Bragg Creek's Spirit of Christmas! 12-4PM
10 Hip Hop Dance Determination is not giving up and finishing what you start.	11 Hip Hop Dance School Council Meeting @ 7PM Determination is having an "I can do it" attitude.	12 Hip Hop Dance Determination is working hard at something to get better at it.	13 Hip Hop Dance Determination takes patience.	14 Hip Hop Dance Pizza Mistakes help us learn how to do new things.	15	16
17 Hip Hop Dance Warm Fuzzy Week! When you give others warm fuzzies you make them feel great.	18 Caroling 9:00AM Words are powerful. Think before you speak, this will help to only give others warm fuzzies.	19 Caroling 1:00PM When you give others warm fuzzies you are showing kindness.	20 Caroling 9:00AM Always try your hardest to think about other people's feelings.	21 Subway Last day of classes. Dress Christmassy! Always try to give others warm Fuzzies.	22	23
24 Vacation K-4	25 Vacation K-4	26 Vacation K-4	27 Vacation K-4	28 Vacation K-4	29	30
31 Vacation K-4	Back to School	January 7 th				